



# ***NEWS RELEASE***

## **PRESS OFFICE**

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## ***SBA SEEKS SMALL R&D FIRMS TO COMPETE FOR ANNUAL TIBBETTS TECHNOLOGY AWARD***

**WASHINGTON --** The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is now accepting nominations for the annual Tibbetts Award, the agency's highest national technology recognition. Tibbetts Awards are made to individuals, small businesses and organizations involved with federal research and development through the SBA's Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Program.

**"Each year, this agency has the distinction of presenting the Tibbetts Award to some of the most creative and innovative small businesses in the nation,"** said SBA Administrator Aida Alvarez. **"The nomination process is only a start and we expect to see the same high caliber applicants as we have in years past."**

The SBIR program accounts for more than \$1 billion per year in federal R&D funds and is coordinated by the SBA in cooperation with 10 other federal agencies. Details on the program and the award nomination process are available on the SBA's home page at <http://www.sba.gov/sbir>. Nomination packages are due by July 14.

Selections for Tibbetts Awards are based on several factors, including the economic impact of the technological innovation, overall business achievement and demonstration of effective collaborations.

The SBA's awards, named for Roland Tibbetts who spearheaded creation of the SBIR program, last year were made to companies and individuals from almost every state in the nation. This year's presentation will take place in Washington, DC, on October 3.

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*Additional information about SBA's programs and services can be obtained from SBA's Web site at [www.sba.gov](http://www.sba.gov) or by calling the **SBA Answer Desk at 1-800-USAASK SBA.***

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